

## Message Text

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PAGE 01    SECTO 04069 161423Z  
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 SS-15 SSO-00 ISO-00 CCO-00  
CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 SP-02 L-03  
PM-05 DODE-00 /071 W  
-----042210 161427Z /50

O 161150Z APR 78

FM USDEL SECRETARY AIRCRAFT  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE  
INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN IMMEDIATE  
MEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE  
MEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY DARES SALAAMIMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTO 4069  
E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS)

SUBJECT: RHODESIA: MEETING ON JOINT STATEMENT CONCLUDING DAR  
MEETING  
CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

1. AT THE END OF THE PLENARY SESSION SATURDAY  
AFTERNOON IT WAS  
AGREED THAT THE TWO SIDES WOULD DRAFT STATEMENTS AND MEET AGAIN  
FOLLOWING THE PRESIDENT'S DINNER TO DEVELOP A JOINT STATEMENT  
FOR THE PRESS. THE TWO GROUPS MET ABOUT 10:30 WITH REDUCED  
DELEGATIONS AND NO OBSERVERS. AFTER TWO HOURS OF DIFFICULT AND  
SOMETIMES HEATED DISCUSSION, WE AGREED ON A JOINT STATEMENT WHICH  
IS BEING TRANSMITTED SEPTEL.

2. THE PROCESS STARTED WITH OUR ATTEMPT TO MAKE ACCEPTABLE AMEND-  
MENTS TO THEIR DRAFT. THE FIRST MAJOR DIFFERENCE AROSE OVER  
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THE FINAL PARAGRAPH WHICH IN THEIR DRAFT STATED AGREE-  
MENT ON A "FULL CONSTITUTIONAL CONFERENCE" TO BE HELD  
AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. THEY OBJECTED WHEN WE SUGGESTED "A  
MEETING OF ALL PARTIES." THEIR POSITION RESTED ON  
THREE ARGUMENTS: A) THEIR REFUSAL TO DISCUSS "MILITARY  
AND RELATED ISSUES" AT A MEETING WITH THE INTERNAL  
PARTIES; B) THEIR INSISTENCE THAT WE HAD ESSENTIALLY

ACCEPTED THEIR PROPOSALS ON SOME TRANSITION ISSUES, AND THESE QUESTIONS SHOULD NOT BE RE-OPENED; AND C) THEIR DENIAL THAT THEY HAD EVER ACTUALLY AGREED TO THE SPECIFIC PHRASE "ALL PARTIES MEETING" WHEN WE DISCUSSED THE MATTER PREVIOUSLY. OWEN AND VANCE RESPONDED TO THESE ARGUMENTS BY POINTING OUT A) THAT IT HAD BEEN COMPLETELY CLEAR IN ALL OUR DESCRIPTIONS OF AN ALL PARTIES MEETING (INCLUDING THE GRAHAM/LOW DISCUSSIONS) AND UNDERSTOOD AT LAGOS, THAT ALL ISSUES COULD BE DISCUSSED AT SUCH A MEETING; B) THAT WE HAD NOT IN FACT AGREED TO THEIR PROPOSALS ON TRANSITION ISSUES AND THAT THEY WERE FUNDAMENTAL CHANGES FROM THE ANGLO AMERICAN PLAN WHICH WOULD HAVE TO BE NEGOTIATED; AND C) THAT WE HAD CLEARLY USED THE PHRASE "ALL PARTIES MEETING" IN OUR PUBLIC AND PRIVATE DESCRIPTIONS OF THE MEETING WHICH THE PF HAD AGREED TO ATTEND.

3. WE AGREED ON THE WORDING THAT "IT WAS AGREED THAT A FURTHER CONFERENCE BE HELD AS SOON AS POSSIBLE." SUBSEQUENTLY, WHEN MEETING WITH THE PRESS, NKOMO WAS ASKED WHETHER HE WOULD ATTEND AN ALL-PARTIES MEETING. HE CAREFULLY REPLIED THAT HE WOULD ATTEND A FURTHER MEETING. IN RESPONSE TO A FURTHER QUESTION, HE SAID THAT THE SUBJECT OF THE MEETING WOULD BE CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS. MUGABE LATER TOLD THE PRESS HE WOULD ATTEND A CONFERENCE WITH BRITISH; IF THEY WANTED TO INCLUDE SMITH, THEY COULD DO SO AS PART OF THE BRITISH DELEGATION. COMMENT: SUBSEQUENT CONFIDENTIAL

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CONVERSATIONS WITH THEM INDICATED THAT THEY ARE QUITE PREPARED TO ATTEND A MEETING WITH ALL PARTIES. NKOMO INDICATED ALSO HE IS RELAXED ABOUT DISCUSSION OF ALL ISSUES.

4. A SECOND ISSUE DISCUSSED WAS THE UN ROLE. AFTER SOME BACK-AND - FORTH, THE FOLLOWING PARAGRAPH WAS AGREED TO, BUT THEN NOT USED LATER IN THE JOINT PRESS STATEMENT SCCE WE AGREED TO AVOID SPECIFIC SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES THEREIN: "THERE WAS AGREEMENT ON THE ROLE OF THE UN MILITARY AND CIVILIAN POLICE FORCES FOR THE PURPOSES OF SUPERVISING A CEASEFIRE AND ASSISTING THE PROCESS LEADING TO JMAJORITY RULE AND INDEPENDENCE." THE PATRIOTIC FRONT HAD SOUGHT TO INCLUDE "ASSISTING IN THE DECOLONIZATION PROCESS" AS THE MAJOR FUNCTION OF THE UN MILITARY FORCE. THE BRITISH WERE ADAMANTLY OPPOSED TO THIS PHRASE.

5. DISCUSSION OF THE POWERS OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL AND THE RELATED ROLE OF THE RESIDENT COMMISSIONER UNCOVERED NEW DISAGREEMENTS. THE PATRIOTIC FRONT INDICATED THAT THEIR AFTERNOON PROPOSAL DID NOT INCLUDE AMONG THE RESERVED POWERS OF THE RESIDENT COMMISSIONER EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

AND THE RIGHT OF APPOINTING AN ELECTORAL COMMISSION.  
IN ADDITION THEY INDICATED THAT THEY UNDERSTOOD OWEN TO  
HAVE ACCEPTED THEIR FORMULATION OF THE POWERS OF THE  
GOVERNING COUNCIL AND ITS RELATIONSHIP TO THE RESIDENT  
COMMISSIONER. OWEN REITERATED HIS POSITION THAT HE  
NEITHER ACCEPTED NOR REJECTED THEIR PROPOSITION. HE REGARDED  
IT AS FUNDAMENTALLY DIFFERENT FROM THE AAP, BUT INDICATED  
THAT IT MIGHT BE MORE NEGOTIABLE THAT THE ANGLO-AMERICAN  
PROPOSALS ON THE POINT. VANCE ALSO MMAD E IT CLEAR THAT WE  
DID NOT ACCEPT THEIR FORMULATION.  
VANCE

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## Message Attributes

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